

**2013 Assembly Bill 592 (LRB -1184) \***

An Act to create 100.313 of the statutes; relating to: solicitation of a fee by a business or individual for a public record, granting rule-making authority, and providing a penalty.

**2013**

12-27.	A.	Introduced by Representatives <b>Ripp, Hebl, Ballweg, Berceau, Bernier, Bewley, Billings, Born, Czaja, Doyle, Hintz, Jacque, Kestell, T. Larson, Loudenbeck, Milroy, Mursau, Nass, Ohnstad, A. Ott, Pridemore, Smith, Swearingen, Vruwink and Genrich</b> ; cosponsored by Senators <b>Olsen, Gudex, Hansen, Harsdorf, Lassa, Miller and Wirch</b> .	510
12-27.	A.	Read first time and referred to Committee on Consumer Protection	510

**2014**

01-07.	A.	Public hearing held	
01-07.	A.	Representatives Jagler and Tittl added as coauthors	515
01-09.	A.	Representative Wright added as a coauthor	519
01-16.	A.	Assembly Amendment 1 offered by Representative Ripp ( <b>LRB a1439</b> )	535
02-04.	A.	Executive action taken	
02-07.	A.	Report Assembly Amendment 1 adoption recommended by Committee on Consumer Protection, Ayes 8, Noes 0	588
02-07.	A.	Report passage as amended recommended by Committee on Consumer Protection, Ayes 8, Noes 0	588
02-07.	A.	Referred to Committee on Rules	589
02-11.	A.	Placed on calendar 2-13-2014 by Committee on Rules	
02-13.	A.	Read a second time	630
02-13.	A.	Assembly Amendment 1 <b>adopted</b>	630
02-13.	A.	Ordered to a third reading	630
02-13.	A.	Rules suspended	630
02-13.	A.	Read a third time and <b>passed</b>	630
02-13.	A.	Representative Barca added as a coauthor	630
02-13.	A.	Ordered immediately messaged	630
02-14.	S.	Received from Assembly	671
02-17.	S.	Read first time and referred to committee on Senate Organization	676
02-17.	S.	Available for scheduling	
02-17.	S.	Public hearing requirement waived by committee on Senate Organization, pursuant to Senate Rule 18 (1m), Ayes 5, Noes 0	674
02-17.	S.	Placed on calendar 2-18-2014 pursuant to Senate Rule 18(1)	675
02-18.	S.	Read a second time	
02-18.	S.	Ordered to a third reading	
02-18.	S.	Rules suspended	
02-18.	S.	Read a third time and <b>concurred in</b>	
02-18.	S.	Ordered immediately messaged	
02-18.	A.	Received from Senate concurred in	672

SB

2013

ENROLLED BILL

13en A B-592

ADOPTED DOCUMENTS:

☒ Orig ☐ Engr ☐ SubAmdt

13-1184/5

Amendments to above (if none, write "NONE"): AA 1 — a 1439/1

Corrections – show date (if none, write "NONE"): None

Topic Rel

2-21-14

Date

J R Miller

Enrolling Drafter



State of Wisconsin  
2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



LRB-1184/5

RPN:cjs:rs

## 2013 ASSEMBLY BILL 592

December 23, 2013 – Introduced by Representatives RIPP, HEBL, BALLWEG, BERCEAU, BERNIER, BEWLEY, BILLINGS, BORN, CZAJA, DOYLE, HINTZ, JACQUE, KESTELL, T. LARSON, LOUDENBECK, MILROY, MURSAU, NASS, OHNSTAD, A. OTT, PRIDEMORE, SMITH, SWEARINGEN, VRUWINK and GENRICH, cosponsored by Senators OLSEN, GUDEX, HANSEN, HARS DORF, LASSA, MILLER and WIRCH. Referred to Committee on Consumer Protection.

- 1    **AN ACT** *to create* 100.313 of the statutes; **relating to:** solicitation of a fee by a  
2        business or individual for a public record, granting rule-making authority, and  
3        providing a penalty.

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### *Analysis by the Legislative Reference Bureau*

Currently an individual may request a copy of a public record from a state agency or local unit of government and, upon the payment of a fee for the cost of producing a copy of the public record, receive a copy of that record. In many cases there is no fee or a small fee for receiving a copy of a public record.

The bill requires any document used by a business or individual to make a solicitation of a fee to provide a copy of a public record to state, in at least 24-point type, that the solicitation is not from a governmental agency, that no action is legally required by the person being solicited, the contact information for the governmental office that has custody of the public record and fee for, or cost of, obtaining the public record from that office, and the solicitor's name.

The bill specifies that the solicitation document may not be in a form that makes it appear to be from a governmental agency or to impose a legal duty upon the solicited person. The bill prohibits the solicitor from charging more than four times the amount charged by the governmental office that has custody of the public record.

The bill also requires a solicitor to furnish the register of deeds of each county where a solicitation is to be made for a copy of a deed with a copy of the solicitation document at least 15 days before the solicitation is distributed. In addition, the bill gives DATCP authority or, at the request of DATCP, the department of justice or a

**ASSEMBLY BILL 592**

district attorney authority to bring an action against any person who violates the provisions of this bill, allows the court to order refunds of moneys paid to a violator, and creates a forfeiture of up to \$100 for each solicitation document distributed in violation of the bill's provisions.

The bill does not apply to a title insurance company authorized to do business in this state.

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***The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:***

1           **SECTION 1.** 100.313 of the statutes is created to read:

2           **100.313 Solicitation of a fee for providing a public record.** (1) In this  
3 section:

4           (a) "Local unit of government" means a political subdivision of this state, a  
5 special purpose district in this state, an instrumentality or corporation of such a  
6 political subdivision or special purpose district, or a combination or subunit of any  
7 of the foregoing.

8           (b) "Record" means any material on which written, drawn, printed, spoken,  
9 visual, or electromagnetic information is recorded or preserved, regardless of  
10 physical form or characteristics, which has been created or is being kept by a local  
11 unit of government or a state agency.

12           (c) "Solicit" means advertise or market to a person with whom the solicitor has  
13 no preexisting business relationship. *INS. AA1-1*

14           (d) "State agency" means any office, department, or independent agency in the  
15 executive branch of Wisconsin state government, the legislature, and the courts.

16           **(2)** A business or individual soliciting a fee for providing a copy of a record shall  
17 state on the top of the document used for the solicitation, in at least 24-point type,  
18 all of the following:

19           (a) That the solicitation is not from a state agency or local unit of government.

**ASSEMBLY BILL 592****SECTION 1**

1           (b) That no action is legally required by the person being solicited.

2           (c) The fee for, or the cost of, obtaining a copy of the record from the state agency  
3 or local unit of government that has custody of the record.

4           (d) The information necessary to contact the state agency or local unit of  
5 government that has custody of the record.

6           (e) The name and physical address of the business or individual soliciting the  
7 fee.

8           (4) The document used for a solicitation under this section may not be in a form  
9 or use deadline dates or other language that makes the document appear to be a  
10 document issued by a state agency or local unit of government or that appears to  
11 impose a legal duty on the person being solicited. The department may promulgate  
12 rules specifying the contents and form of the solicitation document.

13           (5) A business or individual soliciting a fee for providing a copy of a record may  
14 not charge a fee of more than 4 times the amount charged by the state agency or local  
15 unit of government that has custody of the record for a copy of the same record.

16           (6) A business or individual soliciting a fee from property owners for providing  
17 a copy of a deed shall furnish the office of the register of deeds of each county where  
18 the solicitations are to be distributed with a copy of the document that will be used  
19 for those solicitations not less than 15 days before distributing the solicitations.

20           (7) The department may investigate violations of this section. The department  
21 may bring an action or request that the department of justice or a district attorney  
22 bring an action against any person who violates this section. The court may order  
23 the person who violates this section to refund all of the moneys paid to the violator  
24 and to forfeit, for a first violation, not more than \$100 for each solicitation document

**ASSEMBLY BILL 592**

**SECTION 1**

1 distributed in violation of this section, and not more than \$200 for each solicitation  
2 document distributed in violation of this section subsequent to the first violation.

3 (8) This section does not apply to a title insurance company authorized to do  
4 business in this state or its authorized agent.

5 (END)



State of Wisconsin  
2013 - 2014 LEGISLATURE



LRBa1439/1  
RPN:sac:jf

ASSEMBLY AMENDMENT 1,  
TO ASSEMBLY BILL 592

January 16, 2014 – Offered by Representative RIPP.

At the locations indicated, amend the bill as follows:

1. Page 2, line 12: delete lines (12 and 13) and substitute:

“(c) “Solicit” means to directly advertise or market through writing or graphics and via mail, telefax, or electronic mail to an individually identified person, residence, or business location. “Solicit” does not include any of the following:

1. Communicating through a mass advertisement, including a catalog, a radio or television broadcast, or a website.

2. Communicating via telephone, mail, or electronic communication, if initiated by the consumer.

3. Advertising and marketing to those with whom the solicitor has a preexisting business relationship.”.

(END)